

Message Text

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ORIGIN ARA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SAB-01 SS-15 SSO-00 NSCE-00 CIAE-00

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DRAFTED BY ARA/PAN:SMOREYBELL:JVC

APPROVED BY S/AB:AMB. BUNKER

ARA:WROGERS

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O 162339Z JUL 75

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY PANAMA IMMEDIATE

INFO AMEMBASSY SAN JOSE IMMEDIATE

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, PN

SUBJECT: U.S.-PANAMA TREATY NEGOTIATIONS: DISCLOSURE OF
OUTLINE OF ALLEGED U.S. AND PANAMANIAN NEGOTIATION
POSITIONS

REF: PANAMA 4248

FOR THE CHARGE D'AFFAIRES FROM BUNKER AND ROGERS

MIAMI HERALD (AND APPARENTLY OTHER MEDIA REPRESENTATIVES)
HAVE ESSENTIALLY THE SAME STORY AS TIME MAGAZINE.

SHOULD YOU OR OTHER SENIOR UNITED STATES OFFICIALS BE
QUERIED ON THE DISCLOSURE OF THE ALLEGED POSITIONS OF THE
TWO PARTIES ON MAJOR NEGOTIATING ISSUES, YOU MAY WISH TO
REPLY ALONG THE FOLLOWING LINES:

1. THE UNITED STATES CONTINUES TO BELIEVE THAT MAJOR
INTERNATIONAL NEGOTIATIONS SHOULD BE CONDUCTED IN PRIVACY.

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TO CONDUCT THEM IN PUBLIC IS TO IMPAIR, IF NOT PRECLUDE,

THE PROSPECTS OF FULFILLING THE OBJECTIVE OF A NEGOTIATION,
WHICH IS TO ACCOMMODATE THE CONFLICTING INTERESTS OF THE
PARTIES IN AN HARMONIOUS WAY.

2. THE UNITED STATES IS NOT AWARE THAT IT HAS BREACHED
THE PRIVACY OF THE PANAMA NEGOTIATION.

3. THE UNITED STATES WILL NOT COMMENT ON THE ALLEGED
POSITIONS OF THE TWO PARTIES AS CITED IN THE MEDIA,
EXCEPT TO SAY THAT THE ALLEGATIONS RELATE IN IMPORTANT
MEASURE TO ISSUES WHICH THE NEGOTIATORS OF BOTH SIDES
HAVE NOT EVEN BEGUN TO ADDRESS. ACCORDINGLY IT IS
DIFFICULT TO SEE HOW "POSITIONS" ON THOSE ISSUES COULD
PROPERLY BE ATTRIBUTED TO EITHER SIDE, EXCEPT BY
REFERENCE TO PAST RATHER THAN PRESENT NEGOTIATIONS. KISSINGER

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